

# March



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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Read Across America Day — This reading celebration takes place on the birthday of beloved children's author Dr. Seuss, who inspired a lifelong love of learning with his writings.	3	4 Wood frogs begin calling and breeding on the first day and night over 50 degrees. Listen for their quiet, quacking-type call.	5	6 Statewide 4th Grade Writing Contest entries due. This year's theme: <i>My Favorite Tree</i> .  Aldo Leopold Weekend (Mar 6-Mar 8)	7 Our State Bird, the American Robin, begins making its way back to Wisconsin.
8 Daylight Savings Time Begins. Set clocks ahead one hour.  Time to change the batteries in your smoke detector!	9 Ducks, geese, sandhill cranes, and bald eagles return to Wisconsin. How do birds navigate their way back in the spring?	10	11 Full (Worm) Moon	12 It's true! It takes 35 to 40 gallons of maple sap to make one gallon of syrup.	13	14 Fourth Grade Arbor Day Free Tree Application due today!
15 Check birdhouses for damage and clean them before spring birds arrive.	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19 Chipmunks emerge from hibernation. Keep an eye out for middens, or piles of pine cone shreds and other food remains that chipmunks make when they eat.	20 Spring has sprung! Have you noticed any birds singing outside your window? Use an identification guide to learn more about them.	21
22	23 Does your school have a school forest? Spring is a great time to take a visit!	24	25	26 Pasque flowers bloom.	27 Time to take a nature hike. Look for the American woodcock as it performs its spring mating ritual. The birds make a "peenting" noise as they spiral up into the air nearly 200 feet!	28
29 Fun Forestry Fact: Did you know a cord of wood is a stack of logs four feet tall, four feet deep, and eight feet long?	30 First pencil with eraser patented (1858).	31 Think about March weather. Did it "come in like a lion and go out like a lamb?"	Think those old, dead trees have no use to the forest? Not so! Barred owls use these trees, called snags, for their homes.			

FEBRUARY 09	APRIL 09
1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4
8 9 10 11 12 13 14	5 6 7 8 9 10 11
15 16 17 18 19 20 21	12 13 14 15 16 17 18
22 23 24 25 26 27 28	19 20 21 22 23 24 25
	26 27 28 29 30



courtesy of Dan Nedraho

## My Favorite Forest Animal

By Skyler Richard Fisher

Whoooo is my favorite animal? Look 80 feet above, and you may see it there. Its favorite home is the inside of old dead trees.

It hunts from dusk to dawn, swooping down and the mouse is gone, squeezing its prey with long sharp talons. If the prey is small enough, it is eaten in one gulp, bones and all. The sharp beak works like a knife to tear the meat apart.

Its eyes are very big; they are his most powerful weapons. They bring in light to see at night.

Keep alert in February and March for this creature because it makes all kinds of noises to impress a mate. Listen for a hoot that sounds like someone's saying. "Who-cooks-for-you, who-cooks-for-you-all?" It also makes a cat-like scream or a barking sound.

Its feathers have large horizontal bars on the tail and around the neck and large vertical streaking bars on the body. That is how it got its name!

Do you know my forest animal? It's the barred owl, and it happens to be my favorite forest animal.

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